

# Age of Anxiety



Ch. 26

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Per. \_\_\_\_\_

## Learning Objectives

- How did intellectual developments reflect the general crisis in Western thought?
- How did modernism revolutionize Western culture?
- How did consumer society change everyday life?
- What obstacles to lasting peace did European leaders face?
- What were the cause and consequences of the Great Depression?

Ch. 26-1 p. 862-870 Uncertainty in Modern Thought

1. Explain the main ideas behind each of the following:

Friedrich Nietzsche <i>On Genealogy of Morals</i> , 1887	
Henri Bergson	
Logical positivism	
Ludwig Wittgenstein <i>Tractatus Logico- Philosophicus</i> , 1922	
Existentialism	
Jean-Paul Sartre	
Karl Barth	
Gabriel Marcel	

2. What accounts for the revival of Christian faith that coincided with loss of faith in reason and progress had on 20th century Christian thought?

Explain the contributions of each of the following:

Marie Curie	
Max Plank	
Albert Einstein	
Ernest Rutherford	

3. According to Freud, what is the relationship between the id, ego, and superego?

Id	
Ego	
Superego	

Ch. 26-2 p. 870-877 Modernism in Architecture, Art, Literature, and Music

4. Define or identify the contributions of the following:

Frank Lloyd Wright	
Functionalism	

The Bauhaus	
Impressionism	
Expressionism	
Cubism	
Dadism	
Surrealism	
Stream-of-consciousness technique	
<i>Ulysses</i>	

5. How did modern music of the post –war period differ from that of earlier times?

Ch. 26-3 p. 877-880 The Emerging Consumer Society

6. What is meant by the term *mass culture*?

7. What were some of the characteristics of the “modern girl” of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century?

8. What were the complaints of each group regarding the emerging consumer culture?

Socialists	
Conservatives	
Religious leaders	
Others	

9. In addition to the entertainment value, what other values did the development of motion pictures have for early 20<sup>th</sup> century society?

Ch. 26-4 p. 880-885 The Search for Peace and Political Stability

10. What were the attitudes of France, Britain, and Germany toward the Treaty of Versailles?

France	
Britain	
Germany	

11. The most serious international crisis of the 1920s occurred in the Ruhr in January 1923. Explain the cause and consequence of the crisis.

Cause	
Consequence	

12. Describe the role of the United States in the economic and political settlement of the mid-1920s in Europe.

Identify the importance of the following:

Locarno agreement, 1925	
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Kellogg-Briand Pact, 1928	
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13. What problems faced the British governments of the 1920s and the ideas the Labour party had to approach these problems.

Problems	Proposed solutions

Ch. 26-5 p. 885-893 The Great Depression 1929-1939

14. Despite a series of conditions that contributed to it, what single event sparked the causes of the Great Depression?

15. What problems were caused as a result of high unemployment in both the US and Europe?

## 16. Identification

New Deal	
National Recovery Administration (NRA)	
Works Progress Administration (WPA)	

17. Why was the Scandinavian response to the economic crisis the most successful in the Western democracies?

18. What actions did the British government take to help stabilize the economy there between 1929 and the late 1930s?

19. What was the **French Popular Front**?



20. What role did geography play in promoting the political divisions in France and limiting such divisions in Britain?

## Hyperinflation in Germany 1923 - 1924



Children building towers with piles of banknotes (1924)



In 1923, a German housewife burned mark notes in her kitchen stove, since it was cheaper to burn marks than to use them to buy firewood.

usagold.com

Housewife burns banknotes in her stove (1923)



Man wallpaperers his house with banknotes (1924)

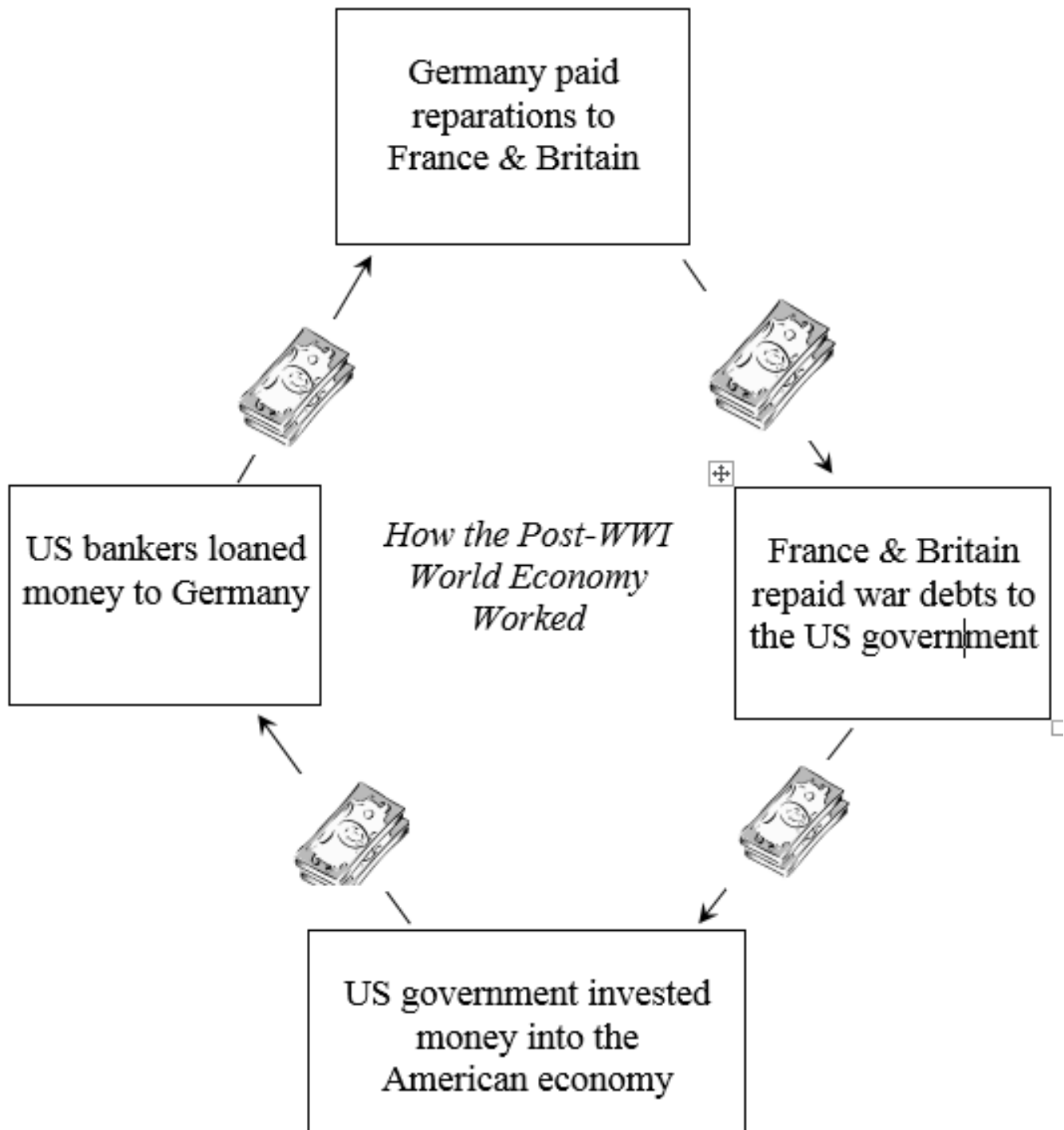
### **Daily Express** (24th February, 1923)

A Berlin couple who were about to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary received an official letter advising them that the mayor, in accordance with Prussian custom, would call and present them with a donation of money. Next morning the mayor, accompanied by several officials in robes, arrived at the old couple's house, and carefully gave them 1,000,000,000,000 marks which was worth one halfpenny in British money.

*Prussia was a state in Germany (almost the same as a county in Britain)*

What do these pictures and the written source suggest about life in Germany in 1923 and 1924?

## The Dawes Plan



## Modern History Sourcebook:

Paul Valéry:

### On European Civilization and the European Mind, c. 1919, 1922

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#### **On European Civilization**

"We modern civilizations have learned to recognize that we are mortal like the others.

"We had heard tell of whole worlds vanished, of empires foundered with all their men and all their engines, sunk to the inexplorable depths of the centuries with their gods and laws, their academies and their pure and applied sciences, their grammars, dictionaries, classics, romantics, symbolists, their critics and the critics of their critics. We knew that all the apparent earth is made of ashes, and that ashes have a meaning. We perceived, through the misty bulk of history, the phantoms of huge vessels once laden with riches and learning. We could not count them. But these wrecks, after all, were no concern of ours.

"Edam, Nineveh, Babylon were vague and splendid names; the total ruin of these worlds, for us, meant as little as did their existence. But France, England, Russia -, these names, too, are splendid. And now we see that the abyss of history is deep enough to bury all the world. We feel that a civilization is fragile as a life. The circumstances which will send the works of [John] Keats and the works of [Charles] Baudelaire to join those of Menander (an ancient Greek poet whose works were lost until the 19th century) are not at all inconceivable; they are found in the daily papers." (1919)

#### *On the European Mind*

"The storm has died away, and still we are restless, uneasy, as if the storm were about to break. Almost all the affairs of men remain in a terrible uncertainty. We think of what has disappeared, we are almost destroyed by what has been destroyed; we do not know what will be born, and we fear the future, not without reason. We hope vaguely, we dread precisely; our fears are infinitely more precise than our hopes; we confess that the charm of life is behind us, abundance is behind us, but doubt and disorder are in us and with us. There is no thinking man, however shrewd or learned he may be, who can hope to dominate this anxiety, to escape from this impression of darkness, to measure the probable duration of this period when the virtual relations of humanity are disturbed profoundly.

"We are a very unfortunate generation, whose lot has been to see the moment of our passage through life coincide with the arrival of great and terrifying events, the echo of which will resound through all our lives.

One can say that all the fundamentals of the world have been affected by the war, or more exactly, by the circumstances of the war; something deeper has been worn away than the renewable parts of the machine. You know how greatly the general economic situation has been disturbed, and the polity of states, and the very life of the individual; you are familiar with the universal discomfort, hesitation, apprehension. But among all these injured things is the Mind. The Mind has indeed been cruelly wounded; its complaint is heard in the hearts of intellectual man; it passes a mournful judgment on itself. It doubts itself profoundly." (1922)

